

REMARKS

Further to the After Final Amendment of July 10, 2007, and subsequent to the Advisory Action of July 24, 2007, Applicants timely submit a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) and a Preliminary Amendment. Applicants submit that this Preliminary Amendment amends Claims 1 and 24 but does not amend Claims 2, 3, 5, 7-12, 14-17, 21-23 and 25-26 of the previously referenced After Final Amendment. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

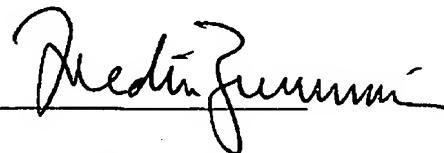
It is noted that the Preliminary Amendment is made only to more particularly define the invention and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, for narrowing the scope of the claims, or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability. It is further noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicants' intent is to encompass equivalents of all claims, even if amended herein or amended during prosecution.

Early, favorable prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayment to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 50-1114.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 31 July 2007



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